

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. CON. RES. 81

Honoring the Berlin Airlift.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 9, 1998

Mr. COVERDELL submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was
referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Honoring the Berlin Airlift.

Whereas the date of June 26, 1998, marks the 50th anniversary of the commencement of the Allied effort to supply the people of Berlin, Germany, with food, fuel, and supplies in the face of the illegal Soviet blockade that divided the city;

Whereas this 15 month Allied effort became known throughout the free world as the “Berlin Airlift” and ultimately cost the lives of 78 Allied airmen, of whom 31 were United States fliers;

Whereas this heroic humanitarian undertaking was universally regarded as an unambiguous statement of Western resolve to thwart further Soviet expansion;

Whereas the Berlin Airlift was an unqualified success, both as an instrument of diplomacy and as a life saving rescue

of the 1,000,000 inhabitants of West Berlin, with 2,326,205 tons of supplies delivered by 277,728 flights over a 462-day period;

Whereas historians and citizens the world over view the success of this courageous action as pivotal to the ultimate defeat of international tyranny, symbolized today by the fall of the Berlin Wall; and

Whereas this inspiring act of resolve must be preserved in the memory of future generations in a positive and dramatic manner: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) the 50th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift
4 should include the presentation of a suitable gift of
5 representational art from the citizens of the United
6 States to the citizens of the Federal Republic of
7 Germany, commemorating the fall of the Berlin Wall
8 and the reunification of the great city of Berlin; and

9 (2) civic and corporate leaders across the Na-
10 tion are entrusted to fulfill the intent of paragraph
11 (1) by using private subscription and volunteer ef-
12 fort with the encouragement and support of Con-
13 gress.

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